



**Water Storage Investment Program Issue Working Session: Definitions, Public Benefits, and Technical Review**

**Background**

In November 2014, California voters passed [Proposition 1: the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014](#). The bond dedicated \$2.7 billion to be continuously appropriated to the California Water Commission to pay for the public benefits of water storage projects and requires the Commission to develop regulations for the quantification and management of the public benefits of water storage projects. The Commission is carrying out its new responsibilities through the Water Storage Investment Program.

In this issue working session, the Commission will consider specific issues relevant to the implementation of the WSIP, consistent with the schedule outlined in the document "Topics for Issue Working Sessions." The Commission will provide direction to staff for the development of regulations and guidelines. At this meeting Jenny Marr, Commission Supervising Engineer and WSIP Project Manager, will present a variety of issues.

Eligibility Criteria	Staff will provide the Commission members proposed/revised eligibility criteria, if revised based on SAC and public input. Staff will ask for tentative acceptance of the eligibility criteria for developing the content of the regulations package.
Definition of Public Benefits	Staff will provide the Commission members proposed draft definitions of all the eligible public benefits for comment. Staff will ask for tentative acceptance of the definitions for developing the regulations package.
Definition of Eligible Project Types	Staff will provide the Commission members proposed draft definitions of all the eligible project types for comment. Staff will ask for tentative acceptance of the definitions for developing the regulations package.
Options for Independent Technical Review	Staff will provide the Commission members options for providing independent technical review of projects. Staff will ask for tentative acceptance of one proposal for developing the regulations package.
Finalizing the Goals, Objectives, and Principles Document	<p>Staff will provide the Commission members a redline strikeout version of the Goals, Objectives, and Principles Document. Staff will present changes resulting from comments received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycled water comment letter</li> <li>• Input from climate team</li> </ul> <p>Staff will request acceptance of proposed changes and approval to finalize the document. The document will be used to guide development of the regulations package and proposal solicitation package, particularly project selection criteria and metrics.</p>

Quantification of Public Benefits/Development of Common Assumptions and Unit Values	Staff will provide the Commission members the proposed methods for quantifying public benefits. This will include a summary of the work being conducted to develop common assumptions and unit values. Staff will ask for tentative acceptance of the methods for developing the content of the regulations package.
Measurable Improvements in Delta/Tributaries	Staff will provide the Commission members a proposal for determining measurable improvements to the ecosystems of the Delta or tributaries to the Delta. Staff will ask the Commission for tentative approval of the proposal for developing the content of the regulations package.

**Contact**

Rachel Ballanti

Assistant Executive Officer

California Water Commission

(916) 653-7937